AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ An ex vivo method for up regulating runt-related transcription factor3 (RUNX3) expression in a subject, comprising:

delivering an active agent to immune cells of said subject having low activity or no activity of RUNX3 gene product, wherein said active agent induces in vitro expression or over-expression of RUNX3 in said immune cells of said subject and

administering back said in vitro-expressed or -over-expressed RUNX3 stem cells to said subject, thereby inhibiting the proliferation of T-cells in said subject.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said immune cells are selected from the group consisting of thymocytes and dendritic cells (DC).

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said immune cells are dendritic cells.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said active agent reduces the proportion of mature dendritic cells versus immature dendritic cells in said subject.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein said reduction in the proportion of mature dendritic cells versus immature dendritic cells is determined by a reduction in the proportion of dendritic cells expressing CD80, CD86, MHC class II and OX40L.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said active agent is selected from the group consisting of a polynucleotide encoding RUNX3 and a polynucleotide encoding a RUNX3 promoter activator.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said polynucleotides further comprise a viral-based vector.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said immune cells are from a subject with a T-cell mediated inflammation disorder that is selected from the group consisting of asthma, allergic asthma, Crohn's disease, and ulcerative colitis.

10-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ An ex vivo method for reducing the proportion of mature dendritic cells versus immature dendritic cells in a subject, comprising:

delivering an active agent to immune cells of said subject having low activity or no activity of runt-related transcription 3 factor (RUNX3) gene product, wherein said active agent induces in vitro expression or over-expression of RUNX3 in said immune cells of said subject and

administering back said in vitro-expressed or -over-expressed RUNX3 stem cells to said subject, thereby reducing the proportion of mature dendritic cells versus immature dendritic cells in said subject.

14-48. (Canceled)

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said immune cells are selected from the group consisting of thymocytes and dendritic cells (DC).

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said active agent is selected from the group consisting of a polynucleotide encoding RUNX3 and a polynucleotide encoding a RUNX3 promoter activator.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein said polynucleotides further comprise a viral-based vector.

52. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein said reduction in the proportion of mature dendritic cells versus immature dendritic cells is determined by a reduction in the proportion of dendritic cells expressing CD80, CD86, MHC class II and OX40L.

53. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein said immune cells are from a subject with a T-cell mediated inflammation disorder that is selected from the group consisting of asthma, allergic asthma, Crohn's disease, and ulcerative colitis.